

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A protective switching device comprising:  
an operating switching device to switch a load on and off;  
a disconnection device to disconnect an input terminal from an output terminal,  
connectable to the appliance to be driven; ~~and~~  
a protective device to protect the appliance to be driven against short circuits, the  
protective device including a fuse in each phase for disconnection in the event of a short  
circuit, with the operating switching device, the disconnection device and the protective  
device being connected in series and being integrated in a housing; and  
a mechanical interlock between the disconnection device and the terminals that allows  
removal of the protective switching device from the appliance only when the disconnection  
device is in an open state.
2. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the protective device is in the form of at least one of a semiconductor motor controller, a  
semiconductor contactor and an electromechanical switching device.
3. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the at least one fuse is removable from the housing.
4. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the at least one fuse is in the form of a semiconductor protective fuse.

5. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the protective device is arranged between the disconnection device and an output terminal to the appliance to be driven.
6. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection device, when in the open state, disconnects and releases the at least one fuse from at least one contact, for removal.
7. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one of a rotary and slide mechanism for opening and closing the disconnection device.
8. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one fuse is in the form of a cylindrical fuse.
9. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection device includes the functionality of a fused load disconnecter.
10. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection device includes two disconnection points.
11. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one fuse is arranged in a moving part of the disconnection device.
12. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a monitoring device for recording of tripping of the at least one fuse.
13. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, wherein electronic switching points are bridgeable by mechanical contacts.
14. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an overload device.

15. (Previously Presented) The protective switching apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the overload device includes an overload relay.
16. (Previously Presented) A protective switching device comprising three current paths as claimed in claim 1 for three-pole appliances, wherein at least one of the current paths has no operating switching device.
17. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one fuse is removable from the housing.
18. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one fuse is in the form of a semiconductor protective fuse.
19. (Currently Amended) A protective switching device comprising:
  - means for switching a load on and off;
  - means for disconnecting an input terminal from an output terminal, connectable to the appliance to be driven; and
  - means for protecting the appliance to be driven against short circuits, the means for protecting including means, in each phase, for disconnecting in the event of a short circuit, with the means for switching, the means for disconnecting and the means for protecting being connected in series and being integrated in a housing, wherein the means for protecting is replaceable only when the means for disconnecting is in an open state.
20. (Previously Presented) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the means, in each phase, for disconnecting in the event of a short circuit includes a fuse in each phase, at least one fuse being removable from the housing.